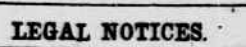


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ILL-TIMED WEATHER

Orchards and Vineyards Far in Bud

Last of March.

**Cold Snap Will Cost Growers of
Maryland and Virginia Many
Thousands of Dollars.**

serious injury to fruit trees is threatened by the unseasonable weather and abnormally high temperatures that have prevailed for the last two weeks. Buds on peach and apple trees are beginning to swell, currant and other

usual schedule as regards buddings, and orchardists and fruit growers are becoming seriously apprehensive of the results of cold snaps and hard freezes that are to be expected during February.

Peach growers throughout southern

covered that the buds on their peach trees were far advanced, the trees in whole orchards at that time showing buds as well developed as they normally would be in late March. As the abnormal temperatures for January continued the peach buds swelled until at the present time, according to many growers, a hard freeze—which may be expected at any time—would result in the practical destruction of the entire crop and the permanent injury of hundreds of thousands of trees.

tions of the Shenandoah valley and the valley of Virginia indicate that, while the trees are not so far advanced as are the peach trees in lower altitudes, the buds have developed in the last two weeks to a point where extreme cold weather would result in thousands of

near Washington report that buds on all of their trees are showing pronounced indications of being injured by the warm weather, and all say that a cold snap and freezing temperatures now would be especially injurious to the buds of such bushes, such as raspberries, blackberries, and even strawberries, have responded to the high temperature of the last two weeks or more and are now as far advanced as they should be at this time from now on normal weather would be fatal to many of the berry plantations. It is reported, the young leaves have begun to push out, and much of the new growth, with which the vines are covered, and hard freeze would practically destroy the plants over large areas.

Berry Plants Far Advanced.

In many of the berry fields along the

ers say that in the event of a season of real winter weather, with low temperatures and hard freezes, practically all but the latest varieties of the different berries would be destroyed. Early spring flowers are also reported to be "showing up" several weeks ahead of their usual time by reason of the unseasonably warm

winds and with a warm southern exposure, tulips, hyacinths, jonquils, narcissi and crocus plants have pushed their shoots up an inch or more above the ground. Extremely cold weather, however, would be required to injure these plants, as ordinary freezes and snow would not damage them.

ably affected or influenced by the warm weather, though its continuance for another week, it is stated, probably would cause the buds to swell to such a point that a hard freeze would affect the foliage.

Arrivals.
Schooners Emma V. Wills, Willie Clarence and Avalon, oysters from the Potomac beds, at 11th street wharf for the market here; steamer Southland.

Beach and upper river landings; steamer Northumberland, from Baltimore and Potomac landings; schooner Daniel P. Mulford, at Alexandria with oysters from the Potomac beds for the market there.

Departures

light, for Newbern, N. C., via Norfolk,
to load lumber back to this city;
schooner Annie Bell, light, from the
10th street wharf for Nomini creek to
load and return; schooner Josephine
Kear, light, from Alexandria for a Po-

Tugs and Tows.

Tug James O. Carter arrived from Point Lookout, where she delivered a tank barge; tug Minerva left

redges undergoing repairs; tug Captain Toby arrived from Alexandria with lighter in tow to load shells at oyster wharf; tug General Warren will leave today with lighters in tow for the Occoquan workhouse farm.

Schooners Centurian and Thomas W. Kirby are at Alexandria with oysters for the market here; schooner Mary